

side, and thus to see down into the short wide œsophagus. Such a view was obtained both by Mr. Busk and myself, and is represented in fig. 9 *b* of my memoir; but MM. Koren and Danielssen seem only to have examined these parts from the side.—I shall of course take the first opportunity of again applying myself to the investigation; and if I find that I have been in error, I shall lose no time in making public my retractation.

P.S. Since writing the above, I have been informed by Dr. Dyster of Tenby, that he has repeatedly verified the most important parts of my observations; viz. the development of embryos, possessing a mouth and ciliated œsophagus, from single ova, which are distinguished as such from the very commencement, by the mode of segmentation and the presence of the directive vesicles.

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IV.—*On the Ultimate Structure of Spongilla, and Additional Notes on Freshwater Infusoria.* By H. J. CARTER, Esq., Assistant Surgeon H. C. S., Bombay.

[With a Plate.]

IN the "Postscript" to my notes on the organization of Infusoria, dated 10th June last\*, it is stated that apertures exist in the investing membrane of *Spongilla*, and that the particles of carmine taken in through them pass into the substance of the sponge-cells. This was added chiefly to correct an assertion made in the body of the paper, that *Spongilla* lived by endosmosis. I also stated that I should recur to these facts more particularly hereafter; but since then, up to within the last month, I have not had an opportunity of again pursuing the subject. I have, however, during this time, succeeded in ascertaining the ultimate structure of *Spongilla*, by following its development from the seed-like body, and this I will now relate.

Those who are acquainted with *Spongilla* are aware, that it is charged towards the base with a number of seed-like bodies of a globular shape, each of which consists of a coriaceous membrane enclosing a number of delicate, transparent, spherical cells, more or less filled with ovules and granular matter, while an incrustation of gelatinous matter, charged with small spicules peculiar to the species, surrounds the exterior of the coriaceous membrane. It has also been shown that at an early period

\* Annals, vol. xviii. p. 242.